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PAGE 01

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 286677

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, UN, MX, UR

SUBJECT: UNGA DISARMAMENT: SALT RESOLUTION

REF: USUN 6352

1. AS YOU KNOW, WE HAVE INFORMED SOVIETS OF OUR PREFERENCE FOR A NO VOTE ON MEXICAN SALT RESOLUTION AND HAVE ENCOURAGED THEM TO VOTE NO ALSO. IF SOVIETS AGREE, DELEGATION SHOULD VOTE NO. HOWEVER, IF SOVIET DEL DECIDES TO ABSTAIN, US DEL SHOULD ALSO ABSTAIN.

2. U.S. DEL SHOULD EXPLAIN VOTE (WHETHER NEGATIVE OR ABSTENTION) AS FOLLOWS: U.S. WELCOMES INTEREST SHOWN BY WORLD COMMUNITY IN THE SALT TALKS AND U.S. REAFFIRMS ITS DESIRE TO ACHIEVE AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE A SALT II AGREEMENT LIMITING QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE ASPECTS OF COMPETITION IN STRATEGIC ARMS. SUBSTANTIAL AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED ON MANY ELEMENTS OF A NEW ACCORD, AND WE ARE WORKING SERIOUSLY TO RESOLVE REMAINING ISSUES. IN VOTING AGAINST (ABSTAINING ON) THIS RESOLUTION, MY DELEGATION WISHES TO REGISTER ITS OBJECTIONS IN PARTICULAR TO THE STATEMENTS IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS 1 AND 2. IN OUR VIEW THESE STATEMENTS SERIOUSLY MISREPRESENT THE FACTS. THE NOVEMBER 1974 VLADIVOSTOK ACCORD BETWEEN PRESIDENT FORD AND GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV ESTABLISHED A MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH IN THE EFFORT TO LIMIT NUCLEAR ARMS. WE ARE ACTIVELY WORKING WITH THE USSR TO ACHIEVE A SALT II AGREEMENT BASED ON THE VLADIVOSTOK UNDERSTANDING. SUCH AN AGREEMENT WOULD IMPOSE EQUAL AGGREGATE TOTALS AND QUALITATIVE LIMITATIONS ON THE STRATEGIC DELIVERY VEHICLES OF THE U.S. AND THE USSR, THEREBY LEADING TO A MORE STABLE BALANCE BETWEEN THEM. IT WOULD ALSO PROVIDE BOTH SIDES WITH A FIRM BASIS FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS, AS THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVE STATED AT THE NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE IN MAY 1975. (CONFERENCE

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PAGE 02-02

NC 42282

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DOCUMENT 35/I, ANNEX II) WE LOOK FORWARD, AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE AGREEMENT OUTLINED
AT VLADIVOSTOK, TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF FOLLOW-ON
NEGOTIATIONS ON FURTHER LIMITATIONS AND REDUCTIONS
IN THE LEVEL OF STRATEGIC ARMS.
3. DEL SHOULD ALSO RELAY TEXT OF FOLLOWING EXPLANATION
TO SOVIET DEL ASAP. ROBINSON